

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 03481 080749Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 /046 W
-----098869 081116Z /13
R 080729Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 804

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 3481

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: NL
SUBJECT: DUTCH FIRST CHAMBER ELECTIONS

1. ELECTIONS WERE HELD ON JULY 6 FOR HALF OF THE 75 SEATS IN THE FIRST CHAMBER OF THE DUTCH BI-CAMERAL LEGISLATURE. FIRST CHAMBER ELECTIONS WERE SOMETHING OF AN ANTI-CLIMAX, AS ITS MEMBERS WERE CHOSEN BY THE PROVINCIAL COUNCILS FROM EACH OF THE ELEVEN DUTCH PROVINCES WHO THEMSELVES HAD BEEN ELECTED IN 1974.

2. THE FIRST CHAMBER SHOWED A GAIN OF FOUR SEATS FOR THE LABOR PARTY (PVDA), A GAIN OF THREE SEATS FOR THE LIBERAL PARTY (VVD), A LOSS OF FIVE SEATS FOR THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS (CDA), AND A LOSS OF ALL THREE SEATS FOR D66. THESE RESULTS REFLECT EXACTLY THE RELATIVE GAINS AND LOSSES OF THE MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES DURING THE 1974 PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS.

3. THE FIRST CHAMBER OF THE DUTCH PARLIAMENT HAS SEVERELY LIMITED POWERS; THOSE POWERS THAT EXIST ON PAPER, SUCH AS THE RIGHT TO ACT ON ALL LEGISLATION BEFORE IT BECOMES LAW, ARE SELDOM EXERCISED. MANY OF THE FIRST CHAMBER'S MEMBERS ARE ONCE-PROMINENT POLITICAL FIGURES WHO ARE EITHER IN A GRADUAL POLITICAL WANE OR WHO ARE MOMENTARILY OUT OF THE POLITICAL MAINSTREAM.
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PAGE 02 THE HA 03481 080749Z

THE FIRST CHAMBER MAY WELL BE FACING THE SAME POLITICAL FATE AS BRITAIN'S HOUSE OF LORDS OR EVEN, IF THE PARTY PLATFORM OF THE DUTCH LABOR PARTY IS IMPLEMENTED, ABOLISHED.
MCCLOSKEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, ELECTIONS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977THEHA03481
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: b1998a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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